

FISCAL NOTE
SB 2290 - HB 2366

January 29, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the county commission of any county having a population of 800,000 or more according to the 2000 or any subsequent federal census to designate a division of the county's general sessions court as the mental health court. Specifies that such court is granted the power to hear cases involving petitions filed under Title 33 (Mental Health Law) and mental health commitments. Specifies that such court shall strive to identify and provide treatment and services to the mentally ill, developmentally disabled or dually diagnosed or persons with a history of alcohol or drug abuse, provide a single point of contact, and provide case management, forensic alternative community treatment and community-based services.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Local Govt. Expenditures - Net Decrease - Exceeds \$100,000/Permissive

Estimate assumes:

- to the extent the affected local government chooses to designate a mental health court, it will experience an increase in expenditures from the additional costs associated with such court, in particular the requirement that the court provide a single point of contact, case management and community treatment.
- by designating a mental health court, the affected local government will hear cases involving mentally ill inmates in the county jail in a more timely manner resulting in a decrease in incarceration expenses as these inmates could be evaluated and potentially released from custody. This decrease is estimated to be significant for the affected local government.

Note: The affected local government may be able to offset some of its additional costs with state or federal grant assistance if it is available.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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